

Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

# Office of the Governor

## \* DRUG COURT MONTH \*

**WHEREAS**, 2009 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Miami-Dade Drug Court, the first drug court in the nation, which sparked a national revolution and changed the face of the American Justice System; and

**WHEREAS**, for the past 20 years drug courts have been restoring lives, reuniting families and making communities across this nation safer; and

**WHEREAS**, drug courts provide focus and leadership for community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health professionals in the fight against drug abuse and criminality; and

**WHEREAS**, 60 to 80 percent of drug offenders sentenced to prison and over 40 percent sentenced to probation recidivate versus fewer than 17 percent of drug court graduates; and

**WHEREAS**, results of more than 100 program evaluations and several met analytic studies have yielded definitive evidence that drug courts are demonstratively effective and significantly improve substance-abuse treatment outcomes, substantially reduce drug abuse and crime, and do so at less expense than any other justice strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, over 25,000 judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, substance abuse and rehabilitation professionals, law enforcement and community supervision personnel, researchers and educators, national and community leaders, and others dedicated to drug courts and similar types of treatment programs are healing families and communities across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, the drug court movement has grown from 12 drug courts in 1994 to 2,301 operational drug courts and 3,410 problem solving courts as of December 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, in support of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals the state of Arizona celebrates and recognizes the practitioners and participants who make drug courts work and the significant contributions that drug courts have made, and continue to make, in reducing drug usage and crime.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Janice K. Brewer, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2009 as

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**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

*Janice K. Brewer*  
GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-first day of April in the year Two Thousand and Nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-third.

**ATTEST:**

*Ken Blum*

Secretary of State